

January 16, 1962

**MINE INSPECTION REPORT
JACKPILE MINE
UNITED PUEBLO AGENCY
LAGUNA PUEBLO RESERVATION**

by
**James W. Hager
Mining Engineer**

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 4/12/13

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
BRANCH OF MINING OPERATIONS
CONSERVATION DIVISION**

On January 11, 1962, the Jackpile mine on the Laguna Pueblo Reservation was inspected. The mine was operated by the Anaconda Corporation and is located 8½ miles north of Laguna, Valencia County, New Mexico. The mine is serviced by a spur of the Santa Fe railroad. Mr. John Herndon was mine superintendent. The last examination of the mine by engineers of this office was June 24, 1961.

The lease originally covered 799.09 acres when issued May 7, 1952. By amendments made September 9, 1954, November 27, 1957, and December 23, 1960, the lease was extended to cover 4,988.48. Anaconda has requested an amendment to the prospecting permit to allow them to take under lease more than the present allowable 5,120 acres in leases of not over 2,560 acres each. It is thought that the Anaconda Company can cover the proven ore body with two leases of 2,560 acres each. Amendments to the royalty provisions of the present leases are under consideration to cover the period after March 31, 1962 when the Circular 5, Atomic Energy Commission's price schedule no longer will be effective.

The Jackpile mine presently contains approximately 500,000 tons of ore with another 500,000 tons of ore stockpiled at the pit. About 200,000 tons of ore will be mined leaving the last ore bench containing about 300,000 tons to be mined after the new Puguante orebody is brought into production. The first of April 1962 the mine will go on a one shift basis. This shift will be employed almost entirely stripping the overburden from the Puguante orebody. Only a small number of men will be employed at the Jackpile hauling ore from the stockpiles to the crusher.

It is expected that the tonnage will be reduced after March 31, 1962 as the contract between Anaconda and the Atomic Energy Commission effective that date calls for a decrease in pounds yellow-coke produced by one-third the present production.



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On date of inspection both large electric F & H shovels were operating on the Puguete stripping project. Only two small shovels were operating at the Jackpile mine. The next two months production will be obtained by mining the next to the lowest ore bench which will complete the presently planned mining at the Jackpile. After that bench is completed all work will be confined to the Puguete orebody. The mill will receive ore only from the existing stockpiles at the Jackpile after that time.

Development of the Puguete orebody is on schedule and ore production is expected about January 1963. The ore-waste ratio is about 6 to 1. The grade of ore is expected to be about 0.29% U₃O₈. The ore occurs in highgrade lenses with lowgrade between. Difficulty has been encountered in grade estimates because of this irregularity. It has been estimated that about 20 million tons of ore and waste will be handled from March 1962 to March 1966. At the Jackpile from 1952 to 1962 about 80 million tons of ore and waste have been handled.

In April 1962 present plans call for reducing the personnel at the mine to 100 men and to go to a one shift basis. Approximately 38,000 tons of ore per month will be shipped to the Bluewater concentrator. On date of examination 200 men were employed at the mine on a two shift basis. Approximately 70,000 tons of ore per month were produced.

On date of examination the mine had worked 173 days without a lost time accident. This was 20 days longer than any other accident free period experienced at the mine.

No safety violations or violations of the lease terms were noted during the examination.

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Orig. to: Supt., United Pueblo, Albuquerque
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